

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend Claims 1-3, 8-10, 15-17, 22-24, 29-31, 36-38, 43, 48, 50 and 53 as indicated below. Claims 4-7, 11-14, 18-21, 25-28, 32-35, 39-42, 44-47, 49, 51-52, and 54-57 remain in the application as previously presented.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A shipping management computer system, said shipping management computer system comprising at least one computer device, wherein said shipping management computer system is programmed to:
receive from each respective user of a plurality of users, a respective input of a respective set of parcel specifications for a respective particular parcel, wherein a user-specific origin identifier is associated with each respective user, wherein each respective user accesses the shipping management computer system over a global communications network using a respective user client computer device, and wherein each respective user client computer device is adapted for communication with the global communications network; and
in response to each respective input, apply a respective set of carrier-specific dimensional weight calculation rules, for each respective carrier of a plurality of carriers, to the respective set of parcel specifications to determine a respective carrier-specific dimensional weight according to a set of physical dimensions of the respective particular parcel in view of a physical weight of the respective particular parcel.
2. (Currently Amended) A shipping management computer system, said shipping management computer system comprising at least one computer device, wherein said shipping management computer system is programmed to:

receive from each respective user of a plurality of users, a respective input of a respective set of parcel specifications for a respective parcel to be shipped by the respective user, wherein a user-specific origin identifier is associated with each respective user, wherein each respective user accesses the shipping management computer system over a global communications network using a respective user client computer device, and wherein each respective user client computer device is adapted for communication with the global communications network;

in response to a request by any particular respective user of the plurality of users to ship a particular respective parcel, calculate, for each respective carrier of a plurality of carriers, a respective carrier-specific dimensional weight according to the respective set of parcel specifications for the particular respective parcel and according to a respective set of dimensional weight calculations rules for the respective carrier, wherein each respective carrier-specific dimensional weight is calculated according to a set of physical dimensions of the respective particular parcel in view of a physical weight of the respective particular parcel; and

in response to the request by the particular respective user to ship the particular respective parcel, identify each respective carrier of the plurality of carriers that would support shipping the particular respective parcel according to a calculated respective carrier-specific dimensional weight for the respective carrier, and according to a respective carrier-specific dimensional weight limitation for the respective carrier.

3. (Currently Amended) A shipping management computer system, said shipping management computer system comprising at least one computer device, wherein said shipping management computer system is programmed to:

receive from each respective user of a plurality of users, a respective input of a respective set of parcel specifications for a respective parcel, wherein a user-specific origin identifier is associated with each respective user, wherein each respective user accesses the shipping management computer system over

a global communications network using a respective user client computer device, and wherein each respective user client computer device is adapted for communication with the global communications network; and

in response to a request by any particular respective user of the plurality of users to ship a particular respective parcel, calculate, for each respective carrier of a plurality of carriers, a respective carrier-specific dimensional weight for the particular respective parcel according to the respective set of parcel specifications and according to a respective set of dimensional weight calculation rules for the respective carrier, wherein each respective carrier-specific dimensional weight is calculated according to a set of physical dimensions of the respective particular parcel in view of a physical weight of the respective particular parcel.

4. (Previously Presented) The shipping management computer system of Claim 3, said shipping management computer system further programmed to:

compare the calculated respective carrier-specific dimensional weight respective carrier-specific dimensional weight limitation; and

identify as a respective supporting carrier each respective carrier for which the calculated respective carrier-specific dimensional weight does not exceed the respective carrier-specific dimensional weight limitation.

5. (Previously Presented) The shipping management computer system of Claim 4, said shipping management computer system further programmed to:

for each respective service of a plurality of services offered by each respective supporting carrier, calculate a respective service-specific, carrier-specific shipping rate for shipping the particular respective parcel.

6. (Previously Presented) The shipping management computer system of Claim 5, said shipping management computer system further programmed to:

for each respective service offered by each respective supporting carrier, calculate the respective service-specific, carrier-specific shipping rate for

shipping the particular respective parcel according to a respective set of service-specific, carrier-specific parcel shipping pricing rules as applied to the respective set of parcel specifications and to the calculated respective carrier-specific dimensional weight and as applied to a respective origin zip code and a respective exemplary destination zip code input by the particular respective user.

7. (Previously Presented) The shipping management computer system of Claim 6, said shipping management computer system further programmed to:

generate an online comparison display of the respective service-specific, carrier-specific shipping rates to a respective display monitor configured with the respective client computer device of the particular respective user.

8. (Currently Amended) A method using a computer system for managing shipping of a plurality of parcels, wherein said computer system comprises at least one computer device, the method comprising:

receiving from each respective user of a plurality of users, a respective input of a respective set of parcel specifications for a respective particular parcel, wherein a user-specific origin identifier is associated with each respective user, wherein each respective user accesses the computer system over a global communications network using a respective user client computer device, and wherein each respective user client computer device is adapted for communication with the global communications network; and

in response to each respective input, applying a respective set of carrier-specific dimensional weight calculation rules, for each respective carrier of a plurality of carriers, to the respective set of parcel specifications to determine a respective carrier-specific dimensional weight according to a set of physical dimensions of the respective particular parcel in view of a physical weight of the respective particular parcel.

9. (Currently Amended) A method using a computer system for managing shipping of a plurality of parcels, wherein said computer system comprises at

least one computer device, the method comprising:

receiving from each respective user of a plurality of users, a respective input of a respective set of parcel specifications for a respective parcel to be shipped by the respective user, wherein a user-specific origin identifier is associated with each respective user, wherein each respective user accesses the computer system over a global communications network using a respective user client computer device, and wherein each respective user client computer device is adapted for communication with the global communications network;

in response to a request by any particular respective user of the plurality of users to ship a particular respective parcel, calculating, for each respective carrier of a plurality of carriers, a respective carrier-specific dimensional weight according to the respective set of parcel specifications for the particular respective parcel and according to a respective set of dimensional weight calculations rules for the respective carrier, wherein each respective carrier-specific dimensional weight is calculated according to a set of physical dimensions of the respective particular parcel in view of a physical weight of the respective particular parcel; and

in response to the request by the particular respective user to ship the particular respective parcel, identifying each respective carrier of the plurality of carriers that would support shipping the particular respective parcel according to a calculated respective carrier-specific dimensional weight for the respective carrier, and according to a respective carrier-specific dimensional weight limitation for the respective carrier.

10. (Currently Amended) A method using a computer system for managing shipping of a plurality of parcels, wherein said computer system comprises at least one computer device, the method comprising:

receiving from each respective user of a plurality of users, a respective input of a respective set of parcel specifications for a respective parcel, wherein a user-specific origin identifier is associated with each respective user, wherein each respective user accesses the computer system over a global

communications network using a respective user client computer device, and wherein each respective user client computer device is adapted for communication with the global communications network; and

in response to a request by any particular respective user of the plurality of users to ship a particular respective parcel, calculating, for each respective carrier of a plurality of carriers, a respective carrier-specific dimensional weight for the particular respective parcel according to the respective set of parcel specifications and according to a respective set of dimensional weight calculation rules for the respective carrier, wherein each respective carrier-specific dimensional weight is calculated according to a set of physical dimensions of the respective particular parcel in view of a physical weight of the respective particular parcel.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 10, said method further comprising:

comparing the calculated respective carrier-specific dimensional weight of to a respective carrier-specific dimensional weight limitation; and

identifying as a respective supporting carrier each respective carrier for which the calculated respective carrier-specific dimensional weight does not exceed the respective carrier-specific dimensional weight limitation.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 11, said method further comprising:

for each respective service of a plurality of services offered by each respective supporting carrier, calculating a respective service-specific, carrier-specific shipping rate for shipping the particular respective parcel.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 12, said method further comprising:

for each respective service offered by each respective supporting carrier, calculating the respective service-specific, carrier-specific shipping rate for

shipping the particular respective parcel according to a respective set of service-specific, carrier-specific parcel shipping pricing rules as applied to the respective set of parcel specifications and to the calculated respective carrier-specific dimensional weight and as applied to a respective origin zip code and a respective exemplary destination zip code input by the particular respective user.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 13, said method further comprising:

generating an online comparison display of the respective service-specific, carrier-specific shipping rates to a respective display monitor configured with the respective client computer device of the particular respective user.

15. (Currently Amended) A computer program product embodying computer program instructions for execution by a computer system for managing shipping of a plurality of parcels, the computer program product comprising:

a set of program instructions for receiving, from each respective user of a plurality of users, a respective input of a respective set of parcel specifications for a respective particular parcel, wherein a user-specific origin identifier is associated with each respective user, wherein each respective user accesses the computer system over a global communications network using a respective user client computer device, and wherein each respective user client computer device is adapted for communication with the global communications network; and

a set of program instructions for applying, in response to each respective input, a respective set of carrier-specific dimensional weight calculation rules, for each respective carrier of a plurality of carriers, to the respective set of parcel specifications to determine a respective carrier-specific dimensional weight according to a set of physical dimensions of the respective particular parcel in view of a physical weight of the respective particular parcel.

16. (Currently Amended) A computer program product embodying computer

program instructions for execution by a computer system for managing shipping of a plurality of parcels, the computer program product comprising:

a set of program instructions for receiving, from each respective user of a plurality of users, a respective input of a respective set of parcel specifications for a respective parcel to be shipped by the respective user, wherein a user-specific origin identifier is associated with each respective user, wherein each respective user accesses the computer system over a global communications network using a respective user client computer device, and wherein each respective user client computer device is adapted for communication with the global communications network;

a set of program instructions for calculating, in response to a request by any particular respective user of the plurality of users to ship a particular respective parcel, for each respective carrier of a plurality of carriers, a respective carrier-specific dimensional weight according to the respective set of parcel specifications for the particular respective parcel and according to a respective set of dimensional weight calculations rules for the respective carrier, wherein each respective carrier-specific dimensional weight is calculated according to a set of physical dimensions of the respective particular parcel in view of a physical weight of the respective particular parcel; and

a set of program instructions for identifying, in response to the request by the particular respective user to ship the particular respective parcel, each respective carrier of the plurality of carriers that would support shipping the particular respective parcel according to a calculated respective carrier-specific dimensional weight for the respective carrier, and according to a respective carrier-specific dimensional weight limitation for the respective carrier.

17. (Currently Amended) A computer program product embodying computer program instructions for execution by a computer system for managing shipping of a plurality of parcels, the computer program product comprising:

a set of program instructions for receiving, from each respective user of a plurality of users, a respective input of a respective set of parcel specifications for

a respective parcel, wherein a user-specific origin identifier is associated with each respective user, wherein each respective user accesses the computer system over a global communications network using a respective user client computer device, and wherein each respective user client computer device is adapted for communication with the global communications network; and

a set of program instructions for calculating, in response to a request by any particular respective user of the plurality of users to ship a particular respective parcel, for each respective carrier of a plurality of carriers, a respective carrier-specific dimensional weight for the particular respective parcel according to the respective set of parcel specifications and according to a respective set of dimensional weight calculation rules for the respective carrier, wherein each respective carrier-specific dimensional weight is calculated according to a set of physical dimensions of the respective particular parcel in view of a physical weight of the respective particular parcel.

18. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of Claim 17, said computer program product further comprising:

a set of program instructions for comparing the calculated respective carrier-specific dimensional weight to a respective carrier-specific dimensional weight limitation; and

a set of program instructions for identifying as a respective supporting carrier, each respective carrier for which the calculated respective carrier-specific dimensional weight does not exceed the respective carrier-specific dimensional weight limitation.

19. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of Claim 18, said computer program product further comprising:

a set of program instructions for calculating, for each respective service of a plurality of services offered by each respective supporting carrier, a respective service-specific, carrier-specific shipping rate for shipping the particular respective parcel.

20. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of Claim 19, said computer program product further comprising:

a set of program instructions for calculating a respective service-specific, carrier-specific shipping rate for shipping the particular respective parcel, wherein said respective service-specific, carrier-specific shipping rate is calculated for each respective service offered by each respective supporting carrier according to a respective set of service-specific, carrier-specific parcel shipping pricing rules as applied to the respective set of parcel specifications and to the calculated respective carrier-specific dimensional weight and as applied to a respective origin zip code and a respective exemplary destination zip code input by the particular respective user.

21. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of Claim 20, said computer program product further comprising:

a set of program instructions for generating an online comparison display of the respective service-specific, carrier-specific shipping rates to a respective display monitor configured with the respective client computer device of the particular respective user.

22. (Currently Amended) A shipping management computer system, said shipping management computer system comprising at least one computer device, wherein said shipping management computer system is programmed to:

receive from each respective user of a plurality of users, a respective input of a respective set of parcel specifications for a respective particular parcel, wherein a user-specific origin identifier is associated with each respective user, wherein each respective user accesses the shipping management computer system over a global communications network using a respective user client computer device, and wherein each respective user client computer device is adapted for communication with the global communications network; and
in response to each respective input, apply a respective set of carrier-

specific billable weight determination rules, for each respective carrier of a plurality of carriers, to the respective set of parcel specifications to determine a respective carrier-specific billable weight, wherein a determination of a respective carrier-specific billable weight comprises a selection of one of: actual weight, dimensional weight, oversize weight or letter weight.

23. (Currently Amended) A shipping management computer system, said shipping management computer system comprising at least one computer device, wherein said shipping management computer system is programmed to:

receive from each respective user of a plurality of users, a respective input of a respective set of parcel characteristics for a respective parcel to be shipped by the respective user, wherein a user-specific origin identifier is associated with each respective user, wherein each respective user accesses the shipping management computer system over a global communications network using a respective user client computer device, and wherein each respective user client computer device is adapted for communication with the global communications network; and

in response to a request by any particular respective user of the plurality of users to ship a particular respective parcel, determine, for each respective carrier of a plurality of carriers, a respective carrier-specific billable weight according to the respective set of parcel characteristics for the particular respective parcel, and according to a respective set of billable weight determination rules for the respective carrier, wherein a determination of a respective carrier-specific billable weight comprises a selection of one of: actual weight, dimensional weight, oversize weight or letter weight.

24. (Currently Amended) A shipping management computer system, said shipping management computer system comprising at least one computer device, wherein said shipping management computer system is programmed to:

determine, in response to a request by any particular respective user of a plurality of users to ship a particular respective parcel, a respective carrier-

specific billable weight for shipping the particular respective parcel, wherein said respective carrier-specific billable weight is determined according to a respective set of billable weight determination rules for each respective carrier of the plurality of carriers, according to a respective set of parcel characteristics, for the particular respective parcel, input by the particular respective user, and according to a respective carrier-specific dimensional weight calculated by the computer system for the particular respective parcel, wherein a determination of a respective carrier-specific billable weight comprises a selection of one of actual weight, dimensional weight, oversize weight or letter weight, wherein a user-specific origin identifier is associated with each respective user, wherein each respective user accesses the shipping management computer system over a global communications network using a respective user client computer device, and wherein each respective user client computer device is adapted for communication with the global communications network.

25. (Previously Presented) The shipping management computer system of Claim 24, said shipping management computer system further programmed to:
identify as a supporting carrier, each respective carrier of the plurality of carriers that would support shipping the particular respective parcel, according to a respective set of carrier-specific acceptable parcel characteristics rules for each respective carrier.

26. (Previously Presented) The shipping management computer system of Claim 25, said shipping management computer system further programmed to:
calculate, for each respective service of a plurality of services offered by each supporting carrier, a respective service-specific, carrier-specific shipping rate for shipping the particular respective parcel.

27. (Previously Presented) The shipping management computer system of Claim 26, said shipping management computer system further programmed to:

calculate the respective service-specific, carrier-specific shipping rate for the particular respective parcel according to a respective set of service-specific, carrier-specific parcel shipping pricing rules as applied to the respective set of parcel characteristics for the particular respective parcel, as applied to the respective carrier-specific billable weight for the particular respective parcel, and as applied to an origin zip code and an exemplary destination zip code input by the particular respective user.

28. (Previously Presented) The shipping management computer system of Claim 27, said shipping management computer system further programmed to:

generate an online comparison display of the respective service-specific, carrier-specific shipping rates to a respective display monitor configured with the respective user client computer device of the particular respective user.

29. (Currently Amended) A method using a computer system for managing shipping of a plurality of parcels, wherein said computer system comprises at least one computer device, the method comprising:

receiving from each respective user of a plurality of users, a respective input of a respective set of parcel specifications for a respective particular parcel, wherein a user-specific origin identifier is associated with each respective user, wherein each respective user accesses the computer system over a global communications network using a respective user client computer device, and wherein each respective user client computer device is adapted for communication with the global communications network; and

in response to each respective input, apply a respective set of carrier-specific billable weight determination rules, for each respective carrier of a plurality of carriers, to the respective set of parcel specifications to determine a respective carrier-specific billable weight, wherein a determination of a respective carrier-specific billable weight comprises a selection of one of: actual weight, dimensional weight, oversize weight or letter weight.

30. (Currently Amended) A method using a computer system for managing shipping of a plurality of parcels, wherein said computer system comprises at least one computer device, the method comprising:

receiving from each respective user of a plurality of users, a respective input of a respective set of parcel characteristics for a respective parcel to be shipped by the respective user, wherein a user-specific origin identifier is associated with each respective user, wherein each respective user accesses the computer system over a global communications network using a respective user client computer device, and wherein each respective user client computer device is adapted for communication with the global communications network; and

in response to a request by any particular respective user of the plurality of users to ship a particular respective parcel, determining, for each respective carrier of a plurality of carriers, a respective carrier-specific billable weight according to a respective set of parcel characteristics for the particular respective parcel, and according to a respective set of billable weight determination rules for the respective carrier, wherein a determination of a respective carrier-specific billable weight comprises a selection of one of: actual weight, dimensional weight, oversize weight or letter weight.

31. (Currently Amended) A method using a computer system for managing shipping of a plurality of parcels, wherein said computer system comprises at least one computer device, the method comprising:

determining, in response to a request by any particular respective user of a plurality of users to ship a particular respective parcel, a respective carrier-specific billable weight for shipping the particular respective parcel, wherein said respective carrier-specific billable weight is determined according to a respective set of billable weight determination rules for each respective carrier of the plurality of carriers, according to a respective set of parcel characteristics, for the particular respective parcel, input by the particular respective user, and according to a respective carrier-specific dimensional weight calculated by the computer

system for the particular respective parcel, wherein a determination of a respective carrier-specific billable weight comprises a selection of one of actual weight, dimensional weight, oversize weight or letter weight, wherein a user-specific origin identifier is associated with each respective user, wherein each respective user accesses the computer system over a global communications network using a respective user client computer device, and wherein each respective user client computer device is adapted for communication with the global communications network.

32. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 31, said method further comprising:

identifying as a supporting carrier, each respective carrier of the plurality of carriers that would support shipping the particular respective parcel, according to a respective set of carrier-specific acceptable parcel characteristics rules for each respective carrier.

33. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 32, said method further comprising:

calculating, for each respective service of a plurality of services offered by each supporting carrier, a respective service-specific, carrier-specific shipping rate for shipping the particular respective parcel.

34. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 33, said method further comprising:

calculating the respective service-specific, carrier-specific shipping rate for the particular respective parcel according to a respective set of service-specific, carrier-specific parcel shipping pricing rules as applied to the respective set of parcel characteristics for the particular respective parcel, as applied to the respective carrier-specific billable weight for the particular respective parcel, and as applied to an origin zip code and an exemplary destination zip code input by the particular respective user.

35. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 34, said method further comprising:

generating an online comparison display of the respective service-specific, carrier-specific shipping rates to a respective display monitor configured with the respective user client computer device of the particular respective user.

36. (Currently Amended) A computer program product embodying computer program instructions for execution by a computer system for managing shipping of a plurality of parcels, the computer program product comprising:

a set of program instructions for receiving, from each respective user of a plurality of users, a respective input of a respective set of parcel specifications for a respective particular parcel, wherein a user-specific origin identifier is associated with each respective user, wherein each respective user accesses the computer system over a global communications network using a respective user client computer device, and wherein each respective user client computer device is adapted for communication with the global communications network; and

a set of program instructions for applying, in response to each respective input, a respective set of carrier-specific billable weight determination rules, for each respective carrier of a plurality of carriers, to the respective set of parcel specifications to determine a respective carrier-specific billable weight, wherein a determination of a respective carrier-specific billable weight comprises a selection of one of: actual weight, dimensional weight, oversize weight or letter weight.

37. (Currently Amended) A computer program product embodying computer program instructions for execution by a computer system for managing shipping of a plurality of parcels, the computer program product comprising:

a set of program instructions for receiving from each respective user of a plurality of users, a respective input of a respective set of parcel characteristics

for a respective parcel to be shipped by the respective user, wherein a user-specific origin identifier is associated with each respective user, wherein each respective user accesses the computer system over a global communications network using a respective user client computer device, and wherein each respective user client computer device is adapted for communication with the global communications network; and

a set of program instructions for determining, in response to a request by any particular respective user of the plurality of users to ship a particular respective parcel, for each respective carrier of a plurality of carriers, a respective carrier-specific billable weight according to the respective set of parcel characteristics for the particular respective parcel, and according to a respective set of billable weight determination rules for the respective carrier, wherein a determination of a respective carrier-specific billable weight comprises a selection of one of: actual weight, dimensional weight, oversize weight or letter weight.

38. (Currently Amended) A computer program product embodying computer program instructions for execution by a computer system for managing shipping of a plurality of parcels, the computer program product comprising:

a set of program instructions for determining, in response to a request by any particular respective user of a plurality of users to ship a particular respective parcel, a respective carrier-specific billable weight for shipping the particular respective parcel, wherein said respective carrier-specific billable weight is determined according to a respective set of billable weight determination rules for each respective carrier of the plurality of carriers, according to a respective set of parcel characteristics, for the particular respective parcel, input by the particular respective user, and according to a respective carrier-specific dimensional weight calculated by the computer system for the particular respective parcel, wherein a determination of a respective carrier-specific billable weight comprises a selection of one of actual weight, dimensional weight, oversize weight or letter weight, wherein a user-specific origin identifier is associated with each respective

user, wherein each respective user accesses the computer system over a global communications network using a respective user client computer device, and wherein each respective user client computer device is adapted for communication with the global communications network.

39. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of Claim 38, said computer program product further comprising:

a set of program instructions for identifying as a supporting carrier, each respective carrier of the plurality of carriers that would support shipping the particular respective parcel, according to a respective set of carrier-specific acceptable parcel characteristics rules for each respective carrier.

40. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of Claim 39, said computer program product further comprising:

a set of program instructions for calculating, for each respective service of a plurality of services offered by each supporting carrier, a respective service-specific, carrier-specific shipping rate for shipping the particular respective parcel.

41. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of Claim 40, said computer program product further comprising:

a set of program instructions for calculating the respective service-specific, carrier-specific shipping rate for the particular respective parcel according to a respective set of service-specific, carrier-specific parcel shipping pricing rules as applied to the respective set of parcel characteristics for the particular respective parcel, [and] as applied to the respective carrier-specific billable weight for the particular respective parcel, and as applied to an origin zip code and an exemplary destination zip code input by the particular respective user.

42. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of Claim 41, said computer program product further comprising:

a set of program instructions for generating an online comparison display of the respective service-specific, carrier-specific shipping rates to a respective display monitor configured with the respective user client computer device of the particular respective user.

43. (Currently Amended) A shipping management computer system, said shipping management computer system comprising at least one computer device, wherein said shipping management computer system is programmed to:

receive from each respective user of a plurality of users, a respective input of a respective set of parcel specifications for a respective particular parcel, wherein a user-specific origin identifier is associated with each respective user, wherein each respective user accesses the shipping management computer system over a global communications network using a respective user client computer device, and wherein each respective user client computer device is adapted for communication with the global communications network; and

in response to each respective input, apply a respective set of carrier-specific ratable weight determination rules, for each respective carrier of a plurality of carriers, to the respective set of parcel specifications, wherein each respective set of carrier-specific ratable weight determination rules comprises a carrier-specific examination of at least one of: a carrier-specific dimensional weight and a carrier-specific billable weight.

44. (Previously Presented) The shipping management computer system of Claim 43, said shipping management computer system further programmed to:

in response to each respective input, identify each respective carrier of the plurality of carriers that would support shipping the respective particular parcel according to the respective set of parcel specifications.

45. (Previously Presented) The shipping management computer system of Claim 44, said shipping management computer system further programmed to:

determine, for each respective carrier of the plurality of carriers, a respective carrier-specific ratable weight for the respective particular parcel, according to the respective set of parcel specifications for the respective particular parcel, and according to the respective set of carrier-specific ratable weight determination rules for the respective carrier.

46. (Previously Presented) The shipping management computer system of Claim 43, wherein the respective carrier-specific ratable weight is a dimensional weight.

47. (Previously Presented) The shipping management computer system of Claim 43, wherein the respective carrier-specific ratable weight is a billable weight.

48. (Currently Amended) A method using a computer system for managing shipping of a plurality of parcels, wherein said computer system comprises at least one computer device, the method comprising:

receiving from each respective user of a plurality of users, a respective input of a respective set of parcel specifications for a respective particular parcel, wherein a user-specific origin identifier is associated with each respective user, wherein each respective user accesses the computer system over a global communications network using a respective user client computer device, and wherein each respective user client computer device is adapted for communication with the global communications network; and

in response to each respective input, applying a respective set of carrier-specific ratable weight determination rules, for each respective carrier of a plurality of carriers, to the respective set of parcel specifications, wherein each respective set of carrier-specific ratable weight determination rules comprises a carrier-specific examination of at least one of: a carrier-specific dimensional weight and a carrier-specific billable weight.

49. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 48, said method further comprising:

in response to each respective input, identifying each respective carrier of the plurality of carriers that would support shipping the respective particular parcel according to the respective set of parcel specifications.

50. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 49, said method further comprising:

determining, for each respective carrier of a plurality of carriers, a respective carrier-specific ratable weight for the respective particular parcel, according to the respective set of parcel specifications[s] for the respective particular parcel, and according to the respective set of carrier-specific ratable weight determination rules for the respective carrier.

51. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 48, wherein the respective carrier-specific ratable weight is a dimensional weight.

52. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 48, wherein the respective carrier-specific ratable weight is a billable weight.

53. (Currently Amended) A computer program product embodying computer program instructions for execution by a computer system for managing shipping of a plurality of parcels, the computer program product comprising:

a set of program instructions for receiving, from each respective user of a plurality of users, a respective input of a respective set of parcel specifications for a respective particular parcel, wherein a user-specific origin identifier is associated with each respective user, wherein each respective user accesses the computer system over a global communications network using a respective user client computer device, and wherein each respective user client computer device is adapted for communication with the global communications network; and

a set of program instructions for applying, in response to each respective input, a respective set of carrier-specific ratable weight determination rules, for each respective carrier of a plurality of carriers, to the respective set of parcel specifications, wherein each respective set of carrier-specific ratable weight determination rules comprises a carrier-specific examination of at least one of: a carrier-specific dimensional weight and a carrier-specific billable weight.

54. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of Claim 53, said computer program product further comprising:

a set of program instructions for identifying, in response to each respective input, each respective carrier of the plurality of carriers that would support shipping [a]the respective particular parcel according to the respective set of parcel specifications.

55. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of Claim 54, said computer program product further comprising:

a set of program instructions for determining, for each respective carrier of a plurality of carriers, a respective carrier-specific ratable weight for the respective particular parcel, according to the respective set of parcel specifications for the respective particular parcel, and according to the respective set of carrier-specific ratable weight determination rules for the respective carrier.

56. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of Claim 53, wherein the respective carrier-specific ratable weight is a dimensional weight.

57. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of Claim 53, wherein the respective carrier-specific ratable weight is a billable weight.